
Title: Dwarves Part II

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Wispbeard and Windaxe
were last, and refused to
return to the halls of
stone in the eastern
mountains, their ways
changed. They had become
more similar to the elves;
shamans and druids, in
touch with animal, tree
and stone, and dwelt in
the wind-filled peaks and
caverns of the
Serpentspine Mountains.
"The Wind Clans" they
were called, wild and
savage, yet noble in their
dealing with the earth,
and they were troubled
no more by the
messengers of Kazathrim,
who sought not to cause
another great war
between their race.

Of Oathtaker,
Shieldbreaker and
Flamebeard, no word was
heard. Swept away in the
currents of Mondain's
insidious reign, they were
lost. Rockwatcher and
Deep-Eye, also, were
thought to be destroyed.

Despite that, the once
again united Clans
rejoiced, and many left
their homes to be joined
together in Kazathrim.
The dwarven empire was
rebuilt, stone by stone,
pillar by pillar. In their
hunts for the remaining
Clans, the dwarves had
come across the newly
built city of Trinsic, in
which many drow dwelt.
These drow were not like

the drow imprinted on
their memory, however;
they had abandoned their
ties to Lolth and
journeyed out of the
Underdark. They were a
wild bunch; ruled not by a
High Thane or one true
king, as the dwarves
were, but by territorial
warlords. Two of these
were Lord Roderick and
Ilyana the Grey, of whom
the dwarves thought highly
of, and vice versa. Peace
was reached between the
dark elves and the
dwarves of Kazathrim.
From Clan Ironhill, a High
Thane was chosen: Thorak,
who in dwarven tomes and
armour, runes of mourning
still weep for. Thus
ended the second recorded
age of dwarvenkind, and
the uniting of the Clans.
Many in Kazathrim now
felt to rebuild the glory
of their empire, and
conquer all the mountains
and caves in Britannia as
their own. High Thane
Thorak Ironhill of whom
supported this. Leading an
army of Ironhill's finest
warriors, in shining suits
of iron and weapons
carved with runes by the
runesmiths in Kazathrim,
they marched west, to
the base of the
Serpentspine Mountains,
neat the edge of the
Compassion Desert. But
the humans now also were
united under a banner,
and old Sosaria was no
more; Lord British was
their king, and all the
surface was his, even the
lands of the dark elves.
Receiving word of a
hostile army of dwarves
near his Shrine of
Compassion, a large force
of paladins and soliders
marched from Britain, the
capital, and laid siege to

Ironhill's surface fortress.
Destroyed and dismayed,
many fled and were lost;
and Thorak Ironhill was
struck down. Clan Ironhill
decayed shortly
thereafter, and many left
Kazathrim to dwell in
Britain with the humans.
The Wind Clans had heard
also of the dwarves war
to claim the mountains
through the trees and
the eagles, and would
ensure that no surfer
would ever find a friend
in the stonelords again. A
dwarf of Clan Windaxe
went to Lord Roderick,
and told him of the
great dragon, Crassus,
who would attempt to
free Lolth from her
confines of the Abyss.
Roderick, bound by honour
to keep the drow goddess
imprisoned, set out to
slay the dragon. But a
trap was laid, and he fell
to Crassus in combat.
Ilyana, Roderick's lover,
heard of this, and
believed the dwarves
traitors -- and led an
army to Ironhill's now
abandoned stronghold to
finish what the Dalrhun
began. Her mind was lost,
however, and she struck
out against beings that
were not present, and
madness overcame her;
and she believed she
committed genocide and
found acquired the blood
needed to appease the
soul of Roderick, though
she took none.
Kazathrim was devastated
by the loss of the High
Thane; and they grieved
long, and a page of the
Book of Grudges will
forever bear the memory
of what the humans did.
A new thane, Grimmak
the Iron was chosen from
Clan Crownsgarde; who

remains on the throne in the present. He took as an advisor the only duergar in Kazathrim, Revka Rockwatcher; believed to be the last of Clan Rockwatcher. He then instated a military campaign called the "Dummaz," or Grudge, in which five waves would be sent to the surface to make war upon Britannia, in one hundred years' time.

Thus ended the third recorded age of dwarvenkind, and the death of Thorak Ironhill.

One hundred years passed, and much preparation was made. Clan Starbreaker was sent first, under Balrik Gotrex; who claimed the city Cove and made it his fortress. The orcs sieged, but allied with the elves under King Gunther, the Avengers of his Throne came, and together the orcs were driven off. Nearly in his hands was the ability to siege Britain, when Darklock, called the reincarnation of Mondain and the second Dalrhun, corrupted Gotrex until he abandoned his cause and sold his soul to the Athric Circle. Clan Starbreaker was disbanded by order of High Rhunlord Revka Rockwatcher; many were taken prisoner and deemed heretics to Dumathoin, the rest dwelt on the surface. Clan Longbeard was sent next, though Grimmak was dismayed to see Starbreaker's fall, and wept. Clan Longbeard claimed Cove again, as Gotrex had done, and called it

Kaladrym. Again, they had nearly prepared for the final assault against Britain, when the unexpected occurred -- orcs invaded, in many numbers. They held them off at equal numbers for a time, until a second enemy appeared; savages, their skin tatoood and painted, twisted spears in their hands. Clan Longbeard quickly fled back underneath the mountains of Cove, into Kazathrim. Through divine revelation, Revka Rockwatcher renames the city to "Bryn Baraz" -- "The Glittering Promise," in common. Longbeard long dwelt in shame in the caverns of Bryn Baraz, and would never return to the surface.

Clan Tidehammer and Bluebeard, joined under one banner after a long period of division. Clan Stormguard it was called, and upon their ships of silver, they went next. They were quickly defeated, however, as they had wished to build a fortress on Fire Island; but demons overcame them, and they were destroyed.

Grimmak the Iron was now powerless. As planned by Revka Rockwatcher, the armies of Bryn Baraz were destroyed, and he declared himself High Thane of all dwarves beneath and above the earth. The High Thane, under his spell, quietly passed the crown onto him, and Clan Ironforge under Feldgarde Grimbrow staunchly supported the High Thane Revka. A period of darkness fell

over the dwarven empire
as the duergar took
control, which still
remains.

It was then that Gotrex
broke free him the
Dalrhun's spell, and fled
to the north, to Dagger
Isle, the land of perpetual
storm and snow. There,
he gathered his
supporters, and quickly
heard word of the
corruption in Bryn Baraz,
and was determined to
fight against it. Clan
Sunderforge was founded,
to reclaim the honour and
crown of the dwarves
from the head of the
duergar Revka
Rockwatcher, and return
the dwarves to a golden
age before the first
Dalrhun came. They await
the coming of the White
Dwarf, the savior of
their kind in times of
great peril, sent from
Dumathoin, who would
deliver them...
Thus endedings uponlords.